

(18).

A perfect Relation of the most Glorious and Entire Victory obtain'd by the Christian Army (under the Conduct of the D's of Lorain and Bavaria) over the whole Turkish Forces, near Darda, taking all their Baggage and Cannon.

Brought by Express to his Excellency the Spanish Embassador, August the 20th. 1687.

Yesterday Morning arriv'd a *Flanders* Mail, which brought no fresher Letters than the 11th from *Vienna*, there having been that Morning an extraordinary Courier arriv'd from the *Imperial Camp*, with Advice that the Duke of *Lorain* was march'd from *Mohatz* towards *Darda*, with full Resolution, (considering how important it was to the present conjuncture of Affairs,) by some stratagem or other, to oblige the *Prime-Vizier* to a Battle: The said Courier reports, that being a League on his way, early in the Morning, he heard the Discharge of a great many Cannon, and continued Volleys of Musquets, which gave subject to believe, that the Armies began then to engage. The Gentlemen of Horse of the Marquis *Castanaga* Governour of the *Spanish Netherlands*, arriv'd at the same time here being sent express to *Don Pedro de Ronquilio*, the *Spanish* Embassador, to impart to him the Glorious Victory the Christian Army has obtain'd over the whole *Ottoman* Force in *Hungary*, being 80000 effective fighting Men, being brought to *Brussels*, by the Gentlemen of Horse of the Marquis *Burgamano*, the *Spanish* Embassador at *Vienna*, and sent from his Highness the Duke of *Lorain*, by the Prince of *Savoy*, to the Emperour; Dated from the *Imperial Army*, in the *Turkish-Camp* near *Esseck*, the 7th. of *August*, 1687. which for the Valour and Conduct of the Generals, as well as the good of *Christendom*, shall give what particulars can at present be obtain'd.

His Highness the Duke of *Lorain* having since his re-passing the *Drave*, reached his Bridge of Boats over the *Danube*, at *Mohatz*, not thinking the *Prime Vizier* would have abandon'd his strong Retrenchments about *Esseck*, was about entering upon the design of Besieging some strong-hold the *Turks* yet possess in *Hungary*, when Advice was brought him, that the whole *Turkish* Army, with all their Cannon, Baggage, and Artillery of War, pass'd the *Drave*, the 28th. of last Month, and strongly Encamped themselves near *Darda*; On the 30th. the Duke of *Lorain* held a Council of War, where they resolv'd, that it was absolutely necessary, to preserve their new Conquest, to return and Fight the Enemy, if they could be possibly drawn to accept it; and secret methods were among the Generals concerted how to induce the *Turks* to quit their Encampment, and fight on equal terms. The Duke made a present Detachment of 8000 Horse to cover *Syclofs*, and *five Churches*, from the Insults of the Enemy, which lay most expos'd; and so leaving his heavy Baggage behind him at *Mohatz*, Muster'd his Army, which did not much exceed 40000 Men; the next day Marched towards the Enemy with easie Journeys, not too much to Fatigue his Men, skirmish'd with some Parties of them in his Passage; on the fourth, came within a League and a half of their Camp, made Entrenchments; and finding that 'twas impossible to force them from their Post, on the fifth, sent a Detachment notwithstanding, to make a shew

of

of attempting it, who Retired with some loss to the Camp. In the night the Duke of *Lorain* caused the Elector of *Bavaria*, with a considerable Body of the Army, to draw out of the Camp one way, and some Generals another, as if they were retreating, which the Prime *Vizier* being advis'd of by his Spies, and believing (through the disadvantage they were in the day before) that the Christian Army was retiring, as they did when they re-passed the *Drave*: Seing them now separated, by fix the next morning the Prime *Vizier*, before they were all retreated, drew out his Army from their Post, attacked the Christian Camp, thinking to have eat them for a Breakfast; but they valiantly maintain'd the Fight till almost Noon, before the first Detachment, which was Marched some miles round, fell in upon their Rear, and soon after another Body of Christians on their Flank, which put them into so great a Consternation, seeing themselves decoyed, that they began to give ground, taking their flight towards *Esseck*, and some thousands of them were driven into the *Drave*, which through the rapidness of the Stream, were most of them drowned; but in some places the Fight was very obstinate and bloody, and continued till ten at Night, but in conclusion their whole Army was discomfited, the Christians being in a full pursuit after them, they having intirely quitted the Field, leaving all their Cannon, Baggage, and Attirals of War behind them, which is said to be full as rich as their Camp before *Vienna*. The number of the slain are computed to be 8000 on the spot, and almost as many drowned in the River; besides a good Account will be had of the pursuit, which every Post, for some time, will bring us more particularly. The *Germans*, in this Days Action, have so approved themselves for their Valour and Conduct, as they will for ever be dreadful to the *Turks*, and the success of this Engagement, being the *Turks* last effort, will bring no small advantage to the Emperour. The Christian Army being not wholly returned from the pursuit, there is no certain Advice of the loss on our side, but as it may be computed 700, some think 1000 may be slain; and we do not miss, as yet, any considerable Officer of Note. But few of the *Turks* are made Prisoners, the *Germans* being so enraged for the Action of *Esseck*, as to give no quarter.

P O S T C R I P T.

Just as this happy News arrived, when the Emperours Affairs were thought to be declining in Hungary, we receiv'd the joyful Advice, That the Venetians have been also successful in the Morea, General Morosini having Land-ed his Army at the mouth of the Gulph of Lepanto, laid Siege to the Fortress, and after some days resistance, made himself master thereof.

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